## Glossary

ſ	integral
$\Delta$	difference in; change in
γ	gamma
π	pi
<b>∴</b>	therefore; hence
$\phi$	diameter
≈	nearly equal to
θ	angle
@	at that point
AASHTO	lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:
abutment	a substructure supporting the end of a superstructure that retains or supports the approach embankment. See also <b>retaining wall</b> and <b>wing wall</b>
adfreezing	the process by which one object becomes adhered to another by the binding action of ice
AFCS	Army Facilities Components System
aggregate	the sand, gravel, or broken stone mixed with cementing material to form a mortar or concrete. The fine material used to produce mortar for stone and brick masonry and for the mortar component of concrete is commonly termed <i>fine aggregate</i> . The coarse material used in concrete only is termed <i>coarse aggregate</i>
AISC	American Institute of Steel Construction
allowable unit stress	the stress per unit of area of the structure material determined to be a safe amount for use (based on quality, condition, and so forth)
allowance	see impact load
anchorage	all members and parts that hold the anchor span of a cantilever bridge in the correct position $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) $
anchor bolt	a bolt-like piece of metal threaded and fitted with a nut or a nut and washer at one end only used to fix members of a structure in position
anchor span	the span of a cantilevered bridge that is connected to the moment-resisting support. See also cantilever girder
angle of internal friction	see angle of repose

angle of repose the batter or slope angle at which a given soil will slide from a

higher to a lower elevation; the angle below which the particles of earth are held in equilibrium by the forces of gravity and friction

angle of skew see skew angle

**anisotropy** the property of exhibiting different strengths in different directions

**AO** area of operation

approach slab a heavy, reinforced concrete slab placed on the approach roadway

adjacent to and resting on the abutment back wall to carry wheel

loads on the approaches directly to the abutment

**approx** approximately

**apron** a timber, concrete, riprap, paving, or other construction shield that

is placed adjacent to substructure abutments and piers to prevent

scour

**AR** Army regulation

arch a bow-shaped, nonrigid structure that produces both vertical and

horizontal reactions at its supports

**arch barrel** an arch ring that extends the width of the structure

arched abutment see spill-through abutment

arch rib the curved members used in open-spandrel bridges. Ribs stretch the

length of the arch and are often parallel to each other with

spandrels running between them

**arm** the portion of a drawbridge that forms part or all of the span; the

rear or counterweight leaf of a bascule span; the overhanging part of a cantilever bridge that supports the suspended span; the perpendicular distance between the two parallel equal and opposite

forces of a moment

**armor** a secondary steel member that is installed to protect a vulnerable

part of another member (such as steel angles placed over the edges

of a joint)

**ASTM** American Society for Testing and Materials

**AVLB** armored vehicle-launched bridge

**axle load** the load borne by one axle of a traffic vehicle, a movable bridge, or

other motive equipment or device and transmitted through a wheel or wheels to a supporting structure. *See also* **wheel concentration** 

**backfill** soil (usually granular) placed behind and within the abutment and

wing walls to fill the unoccupied part of the foundation excavation

**backstay** the part of the main suspension member of a suspension bridge that

extends between the tower and the anchorage to resist overturning stresses exerted on the tower by the suspension span. When the backstay extends over the towers, it no longer supports any portion

of the bridge's floor system between the tower and the anchorage

back wall the topmost portion of an abutment above the elevation of the bridge

seat that functions as a retaining wall with a live-load surcharge or

as a support for the bridge deck and the approach slab

**backwater** a section of water with an elevation that is increased above normal

because of a condition downstream (such as a flood or an ice jam) or

because of stream-width contraction beneath a bridge)

balance blocks blocks of cast iron, stone, concrete, or other heavy material used to

adjust the counterbalance of swing and lift spans

**balance wheel** one of the wheels attached to the superstructure to maintain the

proper balance and lateral stability of the structure by preventing excess rocking or other motion due to wind pressure, shock from operating irregularities, and so forth. When correctly adjusted, the wheel will transmit only its own weight to the track and will revolve

without load on its axle

balancing chain see counterbalancing chain

ballast filler material (usually broken stone or masonry) used either to

stabilize a structure or to transmit a vertical load to a lower level

**baluster** one of a set of small pillars supporting a handrail

**balustrade** a handrail supported by balusters

barbed anchor bolt see ragged anchor bolt

bascule bridge a bridge with a superstructure that swings vertically about a

horizontal axis

**bascule span** a span of a bridge that swings vertically about a horizontal axis

base coat see priming coat

**base metal** the metal at and adjacent to the surface to be incorporated in a

welded joint that will be fused and which will produce a welded joint

through coalescence and interdiffusion with the weld

**base plate** a plate-shaped piece of steel that is made an integral part of the

base of a column, a pedestal, or another member. It transmits and distributes its load directly to the substructure or to another

member

**batten plate** a plate that covers the joint formed by two abutting metal plates or

shapes but does not transmit stress from one to the other; one used instead of lacing to tie together the shapes comprising a built-up member; one in which the bar latticing or lacing of a bolted, riveted, or welded member terminates (sometimes used synonymous with

stay plates). See also stay plate

**batter** the inclination of a surface in relation to a horizontal, a vertical, or,

occasionally, an inclined plane (commonly noted on detail plans as

so many inches to one foot). See also rake

**batter pile** a pile driven in an inclined position to resist forces that act in other

than a vertical direction. It may withstand these forces or be a subsidiary part of a structure to improve its rigidity. When driven and made fast on the end of a pile bent or pier in a waterway, it acts

as a cutwater to divide and deflect floating ice and debris

**bay** the area between adjacent stringers of a multibeam structure

**bead** a narrow, continuous deposit of weld metal in a single pass of fused

filler metal

**beam** a piece receiving and transmitting transverse or oblique stresses

from externally applied loads when supported at intermediate points or ends. The beam derives its strength from internal bending or flexural stresses. It can be rolled, I-shaped or H-shaped metal; I-shaped metal made of plates and angles; or other shapes bolted,

riveted, or welded together (built-up beams)

**bearing failure** a crushing under an extreme compressive load on an inadequate

support; a shear failure in the supporting soil when a footing or pile

applies excessively high pressures

**bearing pad** a thin sheet of material placed between a masonry plate and the

masonry-bearing surface. It is used to fill voids caused by imperfection of the masonry plate and bearing surface, to seal the interface, and to aid in even distribution of loads at the interface

**bearing pile** a pile that receives its support in bearing through the tip or lower

end of the pile

**bearing plate** a steel plate placed between stringers and the supporting seat to

distribute vertical bridge loads and to prevent crushing or flange-

and web-bending failures

**bearing seat** a prepared horizontal surface at or near the top of a substructure

unit upon which the superstructure bearings are placed

**bedrock** a natural mass formation of sedimentary or metamorphic rock

**benchmark** a point of known elevation and location

**bent** a supporting unit of a trestle or viaduct structure made of two or

more columns or column-like members connected by a cap, a strut, or another member. This connecting member distributes superimposed loads on the bent. When combined with a system of diagonal or horizontal bracing attached to the columns, the entire construction functions somewhat like a truss distributing its loads

into the foundation

berm the line of intersection between the top surface of an approach

embankment or causeway and the surface of the side slope; a horizontal bench located at the toe of the slope of an approach cut, embankment, or causeway to strengthen and secure its underlying

material

**blanket** a streambed protection placed adjacent to abutments and piers and

covering the streambed for an adequate distance to resist scour; a deposit of stones of varying sizes or a timber framework loaded with stones or adaptable ballasting material for ballasting and protecting

from displacement

block abutment see straight abutment

**bollard** one of a series of short posts that is used for diverting or excluding

motor vehicles from a road

**bolster** a block-like wood, metal, or concrete member that supports a

bearing on top of a pier cap or abutment bridge seat. It adjusts bearing heights (thus avoiding bridge-seat construction to the crown of the roadway), provides an area that may be ground to a precise elevation, or raises a bearing above moisture and debris that may

collect on the bridge seat. See also bridge pad

bolted joint see riveted joint

**bond** the grip of concrete on reinforcing bars that prevents slippage; the mechanical force developed between two concrete masses when one

is cast against the already hardened surface of the other

**bond stress** the stress developed by the force tending to produce movement or slippage at the interface between the concrete and the metal

reinforcement bars or other shapes in reinforced concrete

construction

bowstring truss any truss with its top-chord members polygonally arranged like a

parabolic truss; one with a top chord conforming to the arc of a circle

or an ellipse. See also parabolic truss

**box beam** a rectangular-shaped precast and prestressed concrete beam. These

beams may be side by side or connected laterally and are used to form a bridge deck with or without a cast-in-place slab or topping. The units act similar to a slab. They act as a beam when spread and

when a cast-in-place slab is used

**bracing** a system of tension and/or compression members connected to the

main members of a structure for support. This system transfers wind, dynamic, impact, and vibratory stresses to the substructure and gives rigidity throughout the complete assemblage. Types of bracing include lateral (which resists transverse forces) and longitudinal (which resists longitudinal forces). See also cross

frames; diaphragm; sway brace; and transverse bracing

**bracket** a projecting support or brace fixed on two intersecting members to

transfer reactions or shear stress from one to the other, to strengthen and render a joint connection of the members more rigid,

or to fix one member in position

breast wall the portion of an abutment between the wings and beneath the

bridge seat that supports the superstructure loads and retains the

approach fill. See also face wall and stem

brick veneer see stone facing

**bridge** a structural means of transit for pedestrians or vehicles above the

land or water surface (whether natural or artificial). The essential parts of a bridge are the substructure with its abutments and/or piers supporting the superstructures; the superstructure slab, girder, truss, arch, or other spans supporting the roadway loads and transferring them to the substructure; and the roadway receiving

and transmitting traffic loads. See also culvert

**bridge pad** the raised, leveled area on which the pedestal, shoe, sole, plate, or other members take bearing by contact. *See also* **bolster** 

**bridge seat** the top surface of an abutment or pier that holds and supports the

superstructure span. For an abutment, it is the surface forming the support for the superstructure and from which the back wall rises.

For a pier, it is the entire top surface

bridge-seat bearing see bridge pad

**bridge-seat pedestal** a block-like member between the bridge seat and the bearings that

supports the superstructure. See also bolster

bridge site the selected position or location of a bridge

bridging the cross bracing fastened between wooden floor stringers (usually

at the one-third span points) to increase the floor rigidity, uniformly distribute the live load, and minimize the effects of impact and

vibration

brush curb a narrow curb (9 inches wide or less) that prevents a vehicle from

brushing against the railing or parapet

**buckle** to fail by an inelastic change in alignment, usually because of

compression

buffer a mechanism designed to absorb the concussion or impact of a

moving superstructure or another part when it swings, rises, or falls

to its limiting position of motion

built-up column a column comprised of several plates and angles or other shapes

united by bolting, riveting, or welding to render the entire

assemblage a unit. Commonly described as a plate girder

built-up girder see built-up column

> bulkhead a retaining timber, steel, or reinforced concrete structure or a

barrier of wooden timbers. Bulkheads consist of driven piles supporting a wall or a wall-like structure resisting the earth or

other material and preventing sliding and overturning

see buffer **bumper** 

**buttress** a bracket-like wall that projects from a wall to strengthen and

stiffen it against overturning forces that are applied to the opposite face. A buttress must touch the wall it reinforces, although it may be integral with or independent of it. All parts of a buttress act in

compression. See also counterfort

buttressed wall a retaining wall with projecting buttresses to provide strength and

stability

butt weld a weld that joins two members end to end

cable one of the main members of a suspension bridge that receives bridge

floor loads and transmits them to the towers and anchorages. See

also suspension bridge

cable band a steel casting with bolts or other fasteners fixing it securely on the

cable of a suspension bridge and preventing the band from slipping from its correct location

camber the slight arch or convex curvature provided in a span structure to

> compensate for dead-load deflection and to secure a more substantial and aesthetic appearance than uniformly straight lines produce; the superelevation given to the extreme ends of a swing span during erection to diminish the deflection (droop) of the arms when in the open position, cantilevered from the center bearing; a

projecting beam, truss, or slab supported at one end only

cantilever abutment an abutment in which the stem or breast wall is fixed rigidly to the footing. Acting as a cantilever beam, the stem transmits the

horizontal earth pressure to the footing, which maintains stability by virtue of the dead weight of the abutment and of the soil mass

resting on the rear portion (or heel) of the footing

cantilever beam see cantilever girder

**cantilever bridge** a bridge with a cantilevered superstructure

cantilever girder a girder or truss with its members or par

a girder or truss with its members or parts arranged so that one or both of its end portions extend beyond the point or points of support. The girder may consist of two projecting ends counterbalanced over a center support, two projecting ends with an intermediate suspended portion in which the weight is completely counterbalanced by the anchor spans or anchorages, or a projecting end counterbalanced by a portion extending in the opposite direction beyond the point of support or by an uplift-resisting anchorage

cantilever span a superstructure span of a cantilever bridge composed of two

cantilever arms or of a suspended span connected with one or two

cantilever arms

cantilever truss see cantilever girder

cap the top piece or member of a viaduct, trestle, or frame bent serving to distribute the loads on the columns and to hold them in their

proper relative positions. See also pier cap and pile cap

**capillary action** the process by which water is drawn from a wet area and transported to a dry area through the pores of a material

**capstone** the top stone of a masonry pillar, a column, or another structure

requiring the use of a single capping element; one of the stones used in constructing a stone parapet to make up its top (weather) course

**catch basin** a box-shaped receptacle fitted with a grilled inlet and a pipe outlet

drain to collect rain water and floating debris from the roadway surface and to retain solid material for periodic removal. Catch basins are usually installed beneath a bridge floor or within the approach roadway, with the grilled inlet adjacent to the roadway

curb

catchment area see drainage area

catwalk a narrow, permanent or temporary walkway for access to some part

of a structure. See also inspection ladder

cellular abutment an abutment of reinforced concrete boxes in which the space between the wings, the breast wall, the approach slab, and the

between the wings, the breast wall, the approach slab, and the footings is hollow. On some bridges, curtain walls between the pier

and the abutment simulate a cellular abutment

cement matrix the binding medium in mortar or concrete produced by hardening

cement

**cement paste** the plastic combination of cement and water that supplies the

cementing action in concrete

center bearing all parts (including pedestal castings, the pivot, and discs) that

support the entire dead load of a swing span when the end lifts are

released or the span is revolving open or closed

center discs the bronze, steel, or other metal enclosed in the pivot of a

center-bearing swing span to reduce its frictional resistance

centering the support for formwork for any slab, beam, or other horizontal

concrete structure on which the arch ring is constructed. Centering is usually timber or metal framework, with its top portion shaped to conform with the arch intrados and covered with lagging or with bolsters spaced to permit treatment of the mortared joints of stone

masonry

**centering device** the mechanical arrangement or device that guides the span of a

bascule or a vertical lift to its position on its supports when moving

from open to closed

center lock a locking device that transmits shear at the centerline of a

double-leaf bascule or double-swing span bridge. This device

eliminates deflection and vibration at the center of the span

center wedges the assembly of pedestals and wedges located upon the pivot pier

beneath the loading girder on a swing bridge. Operated mechanically, it receives the pivot-pier live loads and transmits them directly to the substructure, thus relieving the pivot casting

from all (or nearly all) live-load stress

**CH** clay, high plasticity

**channel profile** the longitudinal section of a channel

**chase** a channel, groove, or elongated recess built into a structure surface

to receive a part of a joint or structure

check analysis see ladle analysis

**chord** the upper (top) and lower (bottom) longitudinal members of a truss

that extend the full length and carry the tensile and compressive forces. The chords may be parallel (the upper one may be polygonal or curved [arched] and the lower one horizontal) or both may be polygonal [broken chords]). The panel points of polygonal top chords

are parabolic chords (they follow the arc of a parabola)

**chord members** the trusses that are commonly divided lengthwise into panels, the

length of each being termed a panel length. The corresponding members of the chords are described as upper (top) chord members

and lower (bottom) chord members

**circular arch** an arch in which the intrados surface is a portion of the surface of a

right circular cylinder

**CL** clay, low plasticity

clearance the unobstructed space provided on or under a bridge

superstructure for the free passage of vehicular and pedestrian traffic, a river or stream with its surface burden of floating debris, or a navigation craft. Clearance is also provided for the free assembly and adjustment of the elements or members of a structure and for the variations in dimension due to workmanship, temperature changes, and minor irregularities. Clearance is sometimes described

as go-and-come or play allowance. See also clear headway

**clear headway** the vertical clearance beneath a bridge structure for navigation. In

tidal waters, headway is measured above mean high-tide elevation.

See also clearance

clear span

the unobstructed space or distance between the substructure elements measured between faces of abutments and/or piers. When a structure is located on a navigable waterway, the clear span is measured at mean low-water elevation and may be the distance between guard or fender piers, dolphins, or other constructions to protect navigation

clevis

a forked device used to pin the end of a rod on a gusset plate or other structural part. The clevis may be adjustable or fixed. An adjustable member with a fixed clevis at one end may be fitted with a thread and nut at its opposite end, while one having fixed clevises at each end may be fitted with either a sleeve nut or a turnbuckle in its midlength portion. Lateral bracing and tie-rod diagonals on steel trusses often use clevises

clevis bar

a member consisting of a rod having upset threaded ends fitted with clevises for engaging end-connection pins. For later adjustment, it has right- and left-hand end threads or it has a sleeve nut or a turnbuckle within its length with right- and left-hand end threads on each of its sections and its clevises forged integrally with the body sections of the bar

clip angle

see connection angle

closed-spandrel arch

an arch bridge with earth filling the space between the deck and the bottom of the arch

coarse aggregate

see aggregate

coefficient of thermal

expansion

the unit strain produced in a material by a change of one degree in temperature

cofferdam

an open, box-like structure constructed to surround the area to be occupied and to permit draining of the enclosure so that excavation may be effected in open air. In its simplest form, the dam consists of interlocking steel sheet piles

cold work

the rolling or bending of material at ordinary room temperature or of steel under concentrated forces

collision strut

a redundant member reinforcing the inclined end post of a through truss against damage from vehicular traffic. The strut joins the end post at a height above the roadway perceived to be the location of collision contact and connects the post with the first interior bottom-chord panel point. The use of collision struts in highway bridges is limited

column

a member resisting compressive stresses, vertical to the bottom chord of a truss and common to two truss panels

composite bridge

a bridge with a concrete deck that has longitudinal main load-bearing members

composite joint

a joint in which combined mechanical devices or such devices combined with a fusion weld develop its strength, rigidity, and so forth. Using joints is undesirable due to the uncertain functioning of composite joints

compound roller

a large, hollow roller holding a large, solid cylinder surrounded by smaller solid rollers with circular spacing bars engaging their ends. The roller is commonly hollow at the center to permit observation of its interior material

the stress that occurrs when force is applied at the ends of a compression member. The stress is inward toward the center of the member

a composite material consisting of a binding medium (such as concrete cement and water) within which are embedded particles or

fragments of aggregate (a relatively inert mineral filler)

a large, reinforced or prestressed concrete, box-shaped beam, concrete box girder usually multicelled with several interior webs. The bottom slab of the girder serves as a flange only, while the top slab is both a flange

and a transverse deck slab

connection angle a piece or pieces of material shaped in an angle serving to connect

two elements of a member or two members of a structure

a foundation of soft soil made more resistant to its loads by consolidated soil foundation

> gravel into the soft material, and injecting cementing materials into the soil mass that will produce consolidation by lapidification

> consolidating natural material, adding material such as sand and

consolidation

the time-dependent change in the volume of a soil mass under compressive load that occurs when water slowly escapes from the pores or voids of the soil. The soil skeleton is unable to support the load and changes structure, thereby reducing its volume and

producing vertical settlements

continuous girder any girder, span, or truss that extends without interruption over

one or more intermediate supports

continuous span see continuous girder

continuous truss see continuous girder

continuous weld a weld that extends the entire length of a joint

> the top stone layer of a retaining wall, pier, abutment, wing wall, coping

and so forth that projects beyond the surface of the masonry below. The top surface is usually battered (washed) to prevent the

accumulation of rain or other moisture

corbel a projecting part of a structure that supports a brace, a short beam, or another member or that serves as part of the architectural

treatment of the structure. In stone and brick masonry construction. this form of corbel is called a *corbel course*, implying greater length

than that of a simple corbel

corbel course see corbel

> corrosion the general disintegration and wasting of surface material through

> > oxidation, temperature, decomposition, and other natural agents

cosine cos

cotter bolt a bolt with a head at one end and a round hole with a cotter pin or a

hexagonal slot with a tapered wedge near the opposite end. Cotter bolts usually have one or two washers. A cotter bolt with a key is

sometimes called a key bolt

a diagonal truss member located at the midspan panel of the truss. counter

> Counters function only when the span is partially loaded. The dead load of the truss does not stress the counter. See also web members

counterbalancing chains in a vertical-lift bridge that serve to counteract the varying

chain weight of the supporting cables incidental to the span movements **counterfort** a

a bracket-like wall that projects from another wall to resist tensile and bending stresses. Counterforts are integrally built with or otherwise securely attached to the side of and extend partially or completely to the top of the wall they reinforce. *See also* **buttress** 

counterforted abutment an abutment that develops resistance to bending moment in the stem through counterforts. This permits the breast wall to be a horizontal beam or slab spanning between counterforts rather than a vertical cantilever slab

counterforted wall

a retaining wall with projecting counterforts to provide strength and stability. *See also* **retaining wall** 

counterweight

a weight used to counterbalance the weight of a movable part such as a bascule leaf or a vertical-lift span

counterweight well

an enclosed space beneath the approach end of a bridge floor that accommodates the counterweight and its supporting frame during span movement on certain types of bascule-bridge structures

course

a layer made of either cut or uncut pieces of stone with horizontal or slightly longitudinally inclined joints in stone masonry; a layer of bricks in mortar (in brick masonry)

cover

the clear thickness of concrete between a reinforcing bar and the concrete surface

covered bridge

a wooden bridge with an adaptable truss. To prevent or delay deterioration of the timbers caused by moisture in the joints, a housing of fastened materials covers the structure or its trusses. A covered bridge may be a deck or a through structure that may use pony trusses

cover plate

a plate used with flange angles or other shapes to provide an additional flange section on a girder, column, strut, or similar member

cracking

visible cracks in an overlay indicating cracks in the concrete below

cradle

the lateral distance from the midpoint of one of the main cables to a straight line drawn between its support points on the towers

creep

an inelastic deformation that increases with time while the stress is constant

crib

a structure with compartments or coffers full or partly full of satisfactory material for supporting the structure. It may also serve as a training wall averting changes in shore and bank locations. The exterior portion may be planked or sheet-piled to protect the crib against erosion or floating debris. *See also* **dike** 

crimped stiffener

a stiffener forged at its ends to fit on the web and web legs of the flange angles of a plate girder

cross fall of roadway

see crown of roadway

cross frames

transverse bracings between two main longitudinal members. *See also* bracing and diaphragm

cross girder

large timber, metal, and reinforced concrete girder members placed perpendicular to and connected on the main girders or trusses of a bridge span, including intermediate and end floor beams cross wall see diaphragm wall

**crown of roadway** the crest line of the convexed surface or the vertical dimension

measuring the convexed or raised surface from gutter to crest

**C-shaped beams** steel channels

cu ft cubic foot; cubic feet

**culvert** a small bridge entirely below the elevation of the roadway surface, with no integral parts. Structures less than 20 feet in span are

culverts, even though they support traffic loads directly. Structures

over 20 feet in span and parallel to the roadway are *bridges* 

curb a stone, concrete, or wooden barrier paralleling the side of the

roadway. Curbs guide vehicles and safeguard bridge trusses, railings, and other structures outside the roadway. Curbs also

protect pedestrians on sidewalks from colliding with vehicles

curb inlet see scupper

**curtain wall** a thin, nonbearing masonry wall; a thin, vertical, and integral part

of a culvert paving slab that protects the culvert against undermining by stream scour; a wall uniting the pillar or shaft portions of a dumbbell pier and serving as a frame composed of

struts and braces to make the entire structure act integrally

curve banking see superelevation

curved wing wall a wall forming either a convex or concave arc flaring from the

alignment of the abutment breast wall

curves in plan and a roadway may be curved in its lateral alignment, its vertical

**profile** contour, or in both its alignment and contour

cut or cutting that portion of construction produced by the removal of the natural

formation of earth or rock, whether sloped or level. The terms *side-hill cut* and *through cut* describe the resulting cross sections

commonly encountered

**cut slope** the inclined surface of an approach cut ending with a ditch or gutter

at its base, which in turn serves to remove accumulations of water

from all areas drained into it

cylinder pier see pier

CZ combat zone

**DA** Department of the Army

**DC** District of Columbia

**dead load** a static load due to the weight of the structure

**deadman** an anchorage member engaging the end of a stay rod, cable, or other

tie-like pieces. The deadman resists the stresses of tie members and restrains and holds structure members in position against

horizontal movement

**debris rack** a grill barrier used to intercept debris above a sewer or culvert inlet

**deck** the part of a bridge that directly supports traffic. The deck distributes the load to beams and stringers and may be the main

supporting element of a bridge. It may be reinforced concrete, timber, a steel plate or grating, or the top surface of abutting

concrete members or units

deck bridge a bridge with its floor elevation at or above the elevation of the

uppermost part of the superstructure

**decking** the flooring of bridges with wooden floors. Decking does not include

floor stringers, floor beams, or flooring-support members

deformation dimensional changes that occur when stress in a material is less

than the yield point. The material will return to its original shape if

the stress is removed

deformed bars see mechanical bond

**deg** degree(s)

bottom chords of trusses with parallel chords

**design load** the load of concentrations used to determine the stresses, stress

distributions, and the cross-sectional areas and compositions of a bridge structure. The design's fixed load or loadings are often composite rather than actual, but are based on a study of vehicle

types

diagonal see web members

diagonal stay a cable support extending diagonally from the tower to the roadway

to add stiffness to the structure and to diminish the deformations

and undulations caused by traffic in a suspension bridge

diam diameter

 $\label{eq:diaphragm} \textbf{diaphragm} \quad \text{ a reinforcing plate or member that is placed within a member or }$ 

deck system to distribute stresses and to improve strength and

rigidity. See also bracing and cross frames

diaphragm wall the walls of a reinforced concrete caisson or box-like structure that

divides its interior space into reinforcing compartments; a wall built transversely to the longitudinal centerline of a spandrel arch to tie together and reinforce the spandrel walls and to provide a support for the floor system. The diaphragms of an arch span may have

manholes to allow inspection

dike a soil embankment constructed to prevent inundation by an

adjacent area. A dike prevents stream erosion and localized scour and directs the current so that debris will not accumulate on bottomland adjacent to approach embankments or portions of the structure. This term is sometimes misapplied to crib construction.

See also crib

**dimension stones** stones quarried with the dimensions large enough to provide cut

stones with given finished dimensions (commonly called *quarry face* 

or rock face)

distribution girder a beam or girder-like member forming a part of the frame that

transmits loads to the drum girder of a rim-bearing swing span

ditch see drain

diversion drain an open, top-paved drain for diverting and conveying water from a

roadway gutter down the inclined surface of a bridge-approach

embankment or causeway

diversion flume see diversion drain

**dolphin** a group of piles driven close together and placed to protect portions

of a bridge exposed to possible damage by collision with river or

marine traffic

double lattice see lattice

bridge

**double-leaf bascule** a bridge that has spans with two bascule leaves

**double-movable** a bridge in which the arms of two adjacent swing spans or the leaves of two adjacent bascule spans are joined at or near the center of the

navigable channel to produce the clear span for navigation

navigable channel to produce the clear span for navigation

dowel a short, round or square length of metal used to attach and prevent movement and displacement of wooden, stone, concrete, or metal pieces when placed in a hole in their contact surfaces. Dowels generally resist shear forces, but footing dowels in reinforced concrete walls and columns resist bending forces. See also drift bolt

drain a trench or trough-like excavation made to collect water. A drain collects and conveys water (a ditch may only serve to collect water). A gutter is a paved drain commonly built in conjunction with the curbs of the roadway or closely adjacent to the paved portion of the

roadway

**drainage** a construction or appliance that intercepts and removes water

drainage area the place where the run-off water goes when passing beneath a

bridge or passing a specific location in a river or stream

**drain hole** an open hole or embedded pipe that provides an exit for water or other liquid matter that might otherwise accumulate. In areas

exposed to freezing temperatures, these holes prevent damage from

expansion caused by freezing

**drawbridge** a bridge over navigable water with a movable superstructure span

of any type that frees the channel from obstructing navigation

**draw rest** a block of masonry, a rigid metal frame, or another support on a fender or guard pier that is equipped with a latch block for holding

open a swing span

draw span a swing or a retractile superstructure span of a bridge over a

navigable stream, river, lake, canal, tidal inlet, gut, or strait. See

also movable bridge

dressed rubble see rubble

**drift bolt** similar to a dowel, except drift bolts are commonly driven in holes

having a diameter slightly less than the bolts. The difference is more a matter of term usage rather than of functions to be performed. See

also dowel

**drip bead** a channel or groove in the bottom of an exposed part of a masonry

structure that stops rainwater and keeps it from dripping on

surfaces below the projection

drip hole see drain hole

**drop inlet** a box-like construction built integrally with the upstream end of a

culvert, which may include a grating. The inlet allows water to flow in at its top and to center the culvert within its bottom portion. If the base is constructed to form a sump below the inlet elevation of the culvert, the inlet may retain material likely to become lodged in

the culvert

**drum girder** the circular-plate girder forming a part of a swing-bridge turntable

that transfers its loads to the rollers and the track on which they travel. When the swing span is closed, the drum-girder track receives the superstructure loads and transmits them to the

substructure bearing area beneath the track

**ductility** the ability to withstand nonelastic deformation without rupture

dyke see crib and dike

**efflorescence** a white deposit on concrete or brick that is caused by crystallization

of soluble salts brought to the surface by moisture in the masonry

el elevation

elastic see deformation

**elastomer** a natural or synthetic, rubber-like material

**electrolytic corrosion** corrosion resulting from galvanic action

**element** a piece of material forming a part of a structure

elliptic arch an arch (fitted to stone masonry arches) in which the intrados

surface is half the surface of an elliptical cylinder. This terminology is sometimes incorrectly applied to a multicentered arch

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**end block** the thickening of the web or an increase in the beam width at the

end to provide adequate anchorage bearing for the posttension

wires, rods, or strands on a prestressed concrete beam

end floor beam see floor beam

**end hammer** the hammering action of an end-lift device on its pedestal or bearing

plate. End hammer occurs when the lifting device is improperly adjusted and traffic movements cause deflections and vibrations

end lift the mechanism of wedges, toggles. link-and-rolle

the mechanism of wedges, toggles, link-and-roller, rocker-and-eccentric, or other devices combined with shafts, gears,

or other needed parts to remove the camber (droop) of a swing span

**end post** the end compression member of a truss, either vertical or inclined in

position and extending from the top chord to the bottom chord. It serves to transmit all of the truss shear loading to the

superstructure

engr engineer

**epoxy** a synthetic resin that cures or hardens by a chemical reaction

between components that are mixed together shortly before use

**eq** equation(s)

equalizer a balance lever engaging the counterweight and the suspending

cables of a vertical-lift span to adjust and equalize the stresses in

the latter

equilibrium

the condition in which the forces acting on a body produce no external effect or movement in statics

equivalent uniform load

a load with a constant intensity per unit of its length. When used to determine the stresses in a structure, this load produces a very similar or equal effect to that of a live load with vehicle or wheel concentrations spaced at varying distances

expansion bearing

a device or assemblage that transmits a reaction from one member or part of a structure to another. The expansion bearing overcomes sliding, rolling, or other friction conditions to permit longitudinal movement caused by temperature changes and superimposed loads without transmitting a horizontal force to the substructure

expansion dam

the expansion joint or that part of the expansion joint that serves as an end form for placing concrete at a joint

expansion joint

a joint designed to provide a means for expansion and contraction that is caused by temperature changes, loadings, and so forth

expansion pedestal

see expansion shoe

expansion rocker

an articulating assembly that forms part of the movable end of a girder or truss and facilitates longitudinal movements caused by temperature changes and superimposed loads

expansion roller

a cylinder that is mounted so that when it revolves it facilitates movements caused by temperature changes, loadings, and so forth. *See also* **roller nest** 

expansion shoe

a member or assemblage that provides a means for expansion, contraction, or other longitudinal movement. Anchor bolts fix the masonry plate or casting in position, and the superimposed shoe plate or pedestal is free to move longitudinally on it or on intervening rollers but is restrained from transverse movement. A *shoe* permits movement by sliding. A *pedestal* secures a somewhat greater total depth and permits movement by sliding or rolling

extrados

the curved surface of an arch that is farthest from its longitudinal axis or axes; the curve defining the exterior surface of an arch

eyebar

a rectangular bar member that has enlarged forged ends or heads with holes through them for engaging connecting pins. An adjustable eyebar has two sections fitted with upset threading engaging a sleeve nut or a turnbuckle

eyebolt

a bolt with a forged hole or loop at one end to allow anchorage of a cable, a hooked rod, other parts of the bridge, or unrelated equipment or structures. *See also* **hook bolt** *and* **ringbolt** 

**F** Fahrenheit

face stones

the stones exposed to view in the drop surfaces of abutments, piers, arches, retaining walls, or other stone structures

face wall

the outermost spandrel walls providing the face surfaces of the completed structure. *See also* **breast wall** *and* **spandrel** 

falsework

a wooden or metal framework built to support the weight of a structure without appreciable settlement and deformation until it can stand alone. Falsework helps construction operations and provides for economical removal and salvaging of material fanged anchor bolt see ragged anchor bolt

fascia a light, stringer-like outside member spanning longitudinally

between cantilever brackets that support large overhangs on girder or beam bridges. A fascia is designed for effect rather than strength

and rigidity, although it may involve both

fascia girder an exposed outer girder of a span that is sometimes treated to

provide an attractive appearance

fatigue the tendency of a member to fail at a lower stress when subjected to

cyclical loading rather than static loading

felloe guard see wheel guard

**fender** a structure that is placed upstream close to a pier or upstream and downstream from the center pier and end piers or abutments of a

superstructure span to protect the superstructure or an open span from collision with floating debris, ice, or other waterborne traffic

**field coat** a coat of paint that is applied after the structure is assembled and

its joints are completely bolted, riveted, or welded together. This is

often part of the field erection procedure

fill material (usually earth) used to raise or change the surface contour

of an area or to construct an embankment

filler a piece used in wooden and structural-steel construction to fill a

space beneath elements such as a batten, splice plate, gusset,

connection angle, or stiffener

**filler metal** metal prepared in wire, rod, electrode, or other adaptable forms to

be fused with the structure metal in the formation of a weld

filler plate see filler

**fillet** a curved portion forming a junction of two surfaces that would

otherwise intersect at an angle. A fillet is used to disseminate and relieve shrinkage or other stresses, to allow movement not otherwise possible, and to facilitate the placement and removal of

concrete forms

**fillet weld** a weld that joins intersecting members by depositing weld metal to

form a near-triangular or fillet-shaped junction of the member surfaces. This weld serves to unite the intersecting surfaces of two

elements of a member

filling see fill

fine aggregate see aggregate

**finger dam** expansion joint in which the opening is spanned by meshing steel

fingers or teeth

**fish belly** a term that is applied to a girder or truss with its bottom flange or

chord haunched or bow-shaped with the convex side downward. See

also lenticular truss

**fixed bearing** the plates, pedestals, or other devices that receive and transmit the

reaction stresses of a beam, slab, girder, truss, arch, or other superstructure span to the substructure or to another supporting

member or structure

fixed bridge a bridge with superstructure spans fixed in position. The

construction may allow for expansion and contraction from

temperature changes, loading, and so forth

fixed-end arch see voussoir arch

**fixed span** an immovable superstructure span anchored in its location on the

substructure

**flange** the part of a rolled I-shaped beam or built-up girder extending

transversely across the top and bottom edges of the web. Flanges carry the forces of internal resisting moment and may consist of

angles, plates, or both

**flange angle** an angle used to form a flange element of a built-up girder, column,

strut, and so forth

**flare** the lateral distance from the cable support on the tower to the

anchorage

**flared wing wall** a wall that forms an angle with the alignment of the abutment

breast wall by receding. It also deflects water and floating debris into the waterway of the bridge, which protects the approach

embankment against erosion

floated face see mortar

**floating bridge** a bridge that is similar to a pontoon bridge except that its parts

providing buoyancy and supporting power may be logs or squared timbers held in position under a plank floor with lashing pieces,

chains, or ropes or made of hollow cellular construction

**floating foundation** a soil-supported raft or mat foundation with low bearing pressures.

See also foundation

floodgate a gate installed in a culvert or bridge waterway to prevent the

ingress of floodwater or tidewater to the area drained by the

structure

floor see deck

**floor beam** a beam or girder transverse to the general alignment of the bridge

with its ends framed on the columns of bents and towers or on the trusses or girders of superstructure spans. A floor beam at the

extreme end of a girder or truss span is an end floor beam

**floor system** the complete framework of floor beams and stringers or other

members supporting the bridge floor and traffic loading, including

impact

**flow line** the surface of a watercourse

**flux** a material that dissolves and removes oxides from metal during the

welding process and protects the weld from oxidation during the fusion process. Flux may be in the coating on a metal-stick electrode or a granular mass covering the arch in submerged arc welding

FM field manual

**footbridge** a bridge designed and constructed for pedestrian traffic

**footer** see **footing** 

footing the enlarged or spread-out lower portion of a substructure that

distributes the structure load to the earth or to supporting piles. Concrete slabs most often use footings, although stone piers also use

footings or *plinth* 

footing course see footing

footwall see toe wall

forms the wood or metal construction used for receiving, molding, and

sustaining a plastic mass of concrete (to the dimensions, outlines, and details of surfaces planned for) while it hardens. *Lagging* refers to the surface-shaping areas producing the intradoses of arches or

other curved surfaces, especially when strips are used

formwork see forms

foundation the supporting material on which the substructure portion of a

bridge is placed. A *natural* foundation consists of natural earth, rock, or near-rock material stable enough to support the superimposed loads without lateral displacement or compaction entailing appreciable settlement or deformation. The term

foundation also applies somewhat to a substructure unit

**foundation excavation** the hole dug for a foundation

foundation grillage a construction of layered steel, timber, or concrete members. All

layers are alike. The members in each layer are parallel, producing a crib or grid-like effect. Grillages usually hold heavy concentrated

loads. See also floating foundation and grillage

**foundation load** the load imposed on a given foundation

foundation pile or a wood, metal, or reinforced concrete pile used to reinforce a

piled foundation to support superimposed loads

foundation pit see foundation excavation

**foundation raft** *see* **floating foundation** 

**foundation seal** a concrete mass placed underwater to close or seal a cofferdam

against incoming water. See also tremie

**foundation stone** a coarse stone that touches the foundation of a structure

FP fixed point

**fps** feet per second; foot per second

**frame** a structure arranged and secured so that it will not be distorted by

supporting loads and forces and physical pressures. Framing

includes design and fabrication for the complete structure

framed bent see bent

framing see frame

**friction pile** a pile that receives its support through friction resistance along the

lateral surface of the pile

**friction roller** a roller placed between members that reduces frictional resistance

to translation movement to cause change in the relative positions of

the members

front-load bearing live-load bearings on the support pier of a bascule bridge

frost heave the upward movement of and force exerted by soil due to alternate

freezing and thawing of retained moisture

**frost line** the depth to which soil may freeze

ft foot: feet

full-height abutment see shoulder abutment

**galvanic action** the electrical current between two unlike metals

**gauge** the distance between parallel lines (such as rails and rivet holes) or

a measure of sheet metal or wire thickness

girder a flexural member that is the main or primary support for the structure, which usually receives loads from floor beams and

stringers. A girder can be any large beam, especially if built up

**girder bridge** a bridge with two or more girders supporting a separate floor system

of slab and floor beams and possibly stringers; a bridge using large, built-up steel beams, prestressed concrete beams, or concrete box

girders

girder span a span in which the major longitudinal supporting members are

girders

go-and-come see clearance

allowance

gothic arch an arch in which the intrados surface has two equal cylinder

segments intersecting obtusely at the crown

**GP** poorly graded gravels; a gravel-sand mixture with little or no fines

**GPM** gallons per minute

grade crossing an intersection of one railroad and one highway at a common grade

or elevation; an intersection of two or more highways; an

intersection of two railroads

**grade intersection** the place where a horizontal and an inclined length of roadway or

two inclined lengths meet in profile. The intersections are connected by a vertical curve to provide an easy transition from one to the other. The resulting profile is a sag or a summit, depending on

whether it is concaved or convexed upward

**grade separation** the use of a bridge structure and its approaches to confine portions

of traffic to different elevations, thus dividing or separating the

crossing movement. See also overpass

**gradient** the rate at which the roadway or sidewalk surface inclines. It is

commonly expressed as a percentage relation of horizontal to

vertical dimensions

**gravity abutment** a heavy abutment that resists the horizontal earth pressure with its

own dead weight

gravity wall a brick, stone, or concrete wall that is stable against sliding and

rotation (overturning) on its foundation or on any horizontal plane

by virtue of its shape and weight

**grillage** a frame that is rigidly connected and built into a masonry bridge

seat, a skewback, or another substructure support to ensure satisfactory load distribution; a platform-like construction or assemblage used to ensure distribution of loads on unconsolidated

soil material. See also foundation grillage

**grout** a mortar with enough water content to make it a free-flowing mass.

Grout is used to fill the spaces between stones or fragments (spalls) in the backing part of stone masonry, to fix anchor bolts, or to fill cored spaces in castings, masonry, or other spaces where water may

accumulate

**GTA** graphic training aid

guard fence see railing

guard pier a concrete or stone-masonry fender that protects the supporting

center pier of the swing span from injury. The pier may or may not be equipped with a rest pier upon which the swing span in its open

position may be latched

guard rail see railing

guide a member that holds a moving part in position and directs its

movement

**guide roller** a fixed roller that serves as a friction roller and guide for a member

gusset a plate serving to connect or unite the elements of a member or the

members of a structure and to hold them in correct alignment or position at a joint. A plate may function either as a gusset and splice

plate or as a gusset and stay plate. See also stay plate

gutter see drain

**gutter grating** a perforated or barred cover that is placed on an inlet to a drain to

prevent the entrance of debris

**guy** a cable, chain, rod, or rope that checks and controls movement or

holds a structure or part in fixed alignment or position

**GW** well-graded gravels; a gravel-sand mixture with 5 percent or less of

fines

hacked anchor bolt see swedged anchor bolt

hand-drawn bridge see hand-operated span

hand hole holes provided in cover plates of built-up box sections to permit

access for maintenance and construction

**hand-operated span** a span that is operated manually by applying force on a capstan,

winch, windlass, or wheel. Such swing spans are called a hand-drawn bridge, a hand-swing bridge, or a lever-swing bridge

handrail railing presenting a latticed, a barred, a balustered, or another

open-web construction. See also railing

hand-swing bridge see hand-operated span

**hanger** a tension element or member that suspends or supports an attached

member such as the floor system of a truss, arch, or suspension span. Suspension bridges use wire cable (termed suspender). See

also suspender

haunch a beam or column deepening, usually deepest at the support and

vanishing at or toward the center. The curve of the lower flange or surface may be circular, elliptic, parabolic, straight, or stepped

**H-beam** a rolled-steel bearing pile with an H-shaped cross section

**head** a measure of water pressure expressed in terms of an equivalent

weight or pressure exerted by a column of water. The height of the

equivalent column of water is the head

**headwater** the depth of water at the inlet end of a pipe, culvert, or bridge

waterway. See also tailwater

headway see clear headway

**heat treatment** various operations (such as tempering, quenching, and annealing)

that use heating and cooling to impart specific properties to metals

**heel of span** the rotation end of a bascule span

heel stay see shear lock

hem hemlock

**hemisperical bearing** a bearing that uses the ball-and-socket principle to allow revolution

in any direction

**hinged joint** a joint constructed to permit rotation

**hip joint** the juncture of the inclined end post with the end top-chord member

of a truss. In a swing span, the juncture of the inclined end post next to the span center with the combined top chord and the connecting tie member between the arms is an *interior* hip joint or hip of truss

hip of truss see hip joint

**hook bolt** a bolt with its head end bent at or nearly at a right angle to its body

portion that acts as a clamp; a bolt with a forged hook at one end

used like an eyebolt. See also eyebolt

**hooked anchor bolt** an anchor bolt bent to form a hook-like anchorage

**horizontal curve** a curve in the plan location defining the alignment

**Howe truss** a parallel-chord truss in which the web system is composed of

vertical (tension) rods at the panel points with an x-pattern of diagonals. Although Howe trusses are usually used in wooden bridges, metal bridges also use them, but to a limited extent because

using metal in compression members is uneconomical

**HP-shaped beams** bearing piles

**HQ** headquarters

**hydrolysis** a chemical process of decomposition in the presence of water

elements

**hydroplaning** loss of contact between a tire and a deck surface when the tire

planes or glides on a film of water covering the deck

**hydrostatic** of or relating to fluids at rest or the forces exerted by such fluids

ice guard see fender

**impact load** a load allowance or increment intended to provide for the dynamic

effect of nonstatic loads

in inch(es)

**indeterminate bridge** a bridge in which forces in the members cannot be determined by

static equations alone

indeterminate stress a stress induced by incorporating a redundant member in a truss or

by an additional reaction in a beam, making stress distributions indeterminate. In redundant beams or trusses, stress distribution

depends on the relative stiffnesses or areas of the members

inelastic compression compression beyond the yield point

inspection ladder special devices or appliances that make a safe and efficient means

for making inspections and tests. They are rigidly fixed on the structure to prevent displacement. However, some structures are adapted for movable platform devices. *See also* **catwalk** 

**integral abutment** a small abutment cast monolithically with the end diaphragm of the

deck

**intercepting ditch** a ditch constructed to prevent surface water from flowing in contact

with the toe of an embankment or a causeway or down the slope of a

cut

intergranular pressure pressure between soil grains

intermittent weld a noncontinuous weld composed of a series of short welds and

intervening spaces with fixed length and spacing

**intrados** the curve defining the interior surface of the arch

**IPS** improved plow steel

**ISBN** International Standard Book Number

**jack stringer** the outermost stringer supporting the bridge floor in a panel or bay,

commonly weaker than a main stringer

**joint** the space between individual stones in stone masonry; the division

or end of continuity in concrete; a point at which members of a truss

or frame are connected

Jul July

key bolt see cotter bolt

**keystone** a stone of the crown string course of an arch; the final stone placed,

closing the arch; or symmetrically shaped, wedge-like stone in a head-ring course at the crown of the arch, extending beyond the extradosal and intradosal limits of the voussoirs of adjoining string

courses

**king post** the post member in a king-post truss or in the king-post portion of

any other type of truss

king-post truss adapted to either wooden or metal bridges. The king-post

truss has two triangular panels with a common vertical post and a beam or chord extending the full truss. It is the simplest truss

king rod see king post

**kip-feet** a unit of measure used to express moment equal to 1,000 pounds of

force acting over a one-foot-long moment arm

**kips** a unit of weight (equal to 1,000 pounds) that is used to express

deadweight loads kilometer(s)

km

**knee brace** a short member that engages two other members, which are joined

to form a right angle or a near-right angle, at its ends. The brace

strengthens the connecting joint and makes it more rigid

**knee wall** a return of the abutment back wall at its ends to enclose the bridge

seat on three sides. The returned ends hide the bridge seat, beam ends, and bearings and may retain a portion of the bridge approach

material

**knuckle** part of the anchorage of a main suspension member that permits the

anchorage chain-free, longitudinal movement in changing direction and provides for elastic deformations caused by temperature

changes and the pull of the suspension member

**kpf** kip(s) per foot

**ksf** kip(s) per square foot

**ksi** kip(s) per square inch

**K-truss** a truss with a web system in which the diagonal members intersect

the vertical members at or near midheight (K-shaped)

L-abutment a cantilever abutment with the stem flush with the toe of the

footing, forming an L in cross section

lacing see lattice

**ladle analysis** the analysis or test of a spoon sample of ferrous metals taken during

each melt of the pouring (teeming) operation. It is the analysis of drillings taken from the finished material and a check determination of the results secured from the ingots made at the

furnace

lagging see forms

lam laminated: lamination

laminated timber timber planks glued together to form a larger member. Laminated

timber is used for frames, arches, beams, and columns

lapidification see consolidated soil foundation

**lap joint** a joint in which a splice is secured by fixing two elements or

members in a position where they project on or overlap each other

**latch** the device provided at one or both ends of a swing span to hold it in

its correct alignment when closed and in readiness for the end

wedges or lifts

latch block see latch

latch lever a hand-operated lever attached by a rod, cable, or chain to the

latching device of a movable span and used to engage and release

the latch

lattice or latticing an assem

an assemblage of single or combined bars, channels, or angles fixed in inclined positions on two or more elements of a member to secure the elements in position and ensure their combined action. When the bars incline in opposite directions and connect at their intermediate length intersections, the assemblage becomes a *double lattice* 

lattice truss

a truss with inclined web members. It has two or more web systems composed entirely of diagonal members at any interval and crossing each other without reference to vertical members. Any vertical members act as web stiffeners and may connect vertical brace frames to the girders

**lb** pound(s)

**lb/ft** pound(s) per foot; pound(s) per feet

**leaf** the portion of a bascule bridge that forms part or all of the span

**ledger course** a layer in masonry or concrete construction with a projection beyond the plane of superimposed on its top bed

ledge rock see bedrock

**LEE** labor and equipment estimates

**lenticular truss** a truss in which the polygonal chords curve in opposite directions,

while their ends meet at a common joint. This is very similar to a parabolic arc. In through spans, the floor system is suspended from

the joints of the bottom chord and the end posts are vertical

lever-swing bridge see hand-operated span

lift span a superstructure span revolving or lifting vertically to allow

obstruction-free navigation. See also movable bridge

**lifting girder** a girder or girder-like member engaging the trusses or girders of the

attached vertical-lift span

link and roller an adjustable, hinged, strut-like link fitted with a roller at its

bottom end. It is supported on a shoe plate or pedestal and operated by a thrust strut, which forces it into and withdraws it from a vertical position. When installed on the outer ends of the girders or trusses of a swing span, link and rollers lift the span enough to remove the camber or allow the span to droop and free the arms to act as simple spans. When the links are withdrawn to a fixed

(inclined) position, the span can be opened

**lintel bridge** a bridge with one or a series of spans composed of slabs of stone or

reinforced concrete, spanning the interval(s) between its

substructure elements

**lintel stone** a stone used to support a wall over an opening

**live load** a dynamic load (such as traffic) that is applied to a structure

suddenly or that is accompanied by vibration, oscillation, or other

conditions that affects its intensity

live-load bearing a class of bearings or supports installed on movable swing and

bascule spans. They are engaged when the bridge is in the closed position, taking the load off the trunnions and center pivot and preventing the outer end of the lift span from hammering on the rest

pier under live load

**loading girder** girders of a center-bearing swing span located above the pivot pier.

Loading girders concentrate the superimposed load on the pivot

**LOC** lines of communication

**lock device** any of various devices, including incidental levers, shafts, and gears,

used to lock bascules, vertical lifts, or swing spans in position

locking mechanism see lock device

lower track see roller track

**L-shaped beam** a beam comprised of two legs that forms an L

m meter(s)

**MANSCEN** Maneuver Support Center

margin see tolerance

masonry stone, brick, or concrete structures (such as abutments, piers,

retaining walls, and arches)

masonry plate a steel plate or plate-shaped member attached on a substructure

part to support the rocker, shoe, or pedestal of a beam, girder, or truss span and to distribute the load to the masonry beneath

mattress a mat-like protective covering made of brush and poles (commonly

willow) compacted by wire or other lashings and ties. Mattresses are placed on water beds, banks, or shores to prevent erosion and scour

max maximum

**meander** a slow-flowing stream's serpentine curvature in a floodplain

**mechanical bond** the bond resulting from surface irregularities from manufacturing

operations. The difference in round-bar reinforcement between the force required to produce initial slip and the ultimate, producing failure. *Deformed bars* use this mechanical bond with the surface

bond

**member** any individual piece of an assembled frame or structure

MGB medium-girder bridge

mi mile(s)

milled a careful grinding of an edge or surface in steel fabrication to ensure

good bearing or fit

min minimum

MLC military load classification

**mortar** a mixture of cementing material with fine aggregate and water.

Mortar is used to bed and bind quarried stones, bricks, or other solid materials together or to produce a plastic coating on such constructions. This coating is also termed *floated* or *surface face*,

mortar coat, mortar finish, or parapet

mortar coat see mortar mortar finish see mortar

MOS military occupational specialty

**movable bridge** any bridge with one or more spans that can be raised, turned, lifted, or slid from their normal position to allow passage of navigation. *See* 

also draw span and lift span

movable span a superstructure intended to be swung or lifted to provide an

unobstructed waterway space for waterborne traffic

mph mile(s) per hourMSR main supply route

mud sill a piece of timber or a unit of two or more timbers placed on a soil

foundation to support a single column, a framed trestle bent, and so forth. A load distribution piece aligned with and placed directly beneath the sill piece of a framed bent is a *subsill*, although it may

act as a mud sill

multicentered arch an arch in which the intrados surface is outlined by two or more arcs

having different radii by intersecting tangentially and disposed

symmetrically

N north

N/A not applicablena neutral axis

**NATO** North Atlantic Treaty Organization

natural foundation see foundation

natural slope see angle of repose

NDS national design specification

neat line the general alignment or position of a face or another surface

exclusive or regardless of projections

neat surface see neat line

**No.** number(s)

normal roadway cross the usual cross section of a roadway along straight stretches of a

section road

**nose** a projection acting as a cutwater on the upstream end of a pier. *See* 

also starling

notched anchor bolt see swedged anchor bolt

**notch effect** stress concentration caused by an abrupt discontinuity or change in

a section. It can markedly affect a member's fatigue strength

N-truss see Pratt truss

**OCONUS** outside continental United States

**OH** organic silt; organic silt clay of low plasticity

open-spandrel arch

an arch with unfilled spandrel walls. The arch ring receives its superimposed loads through these walls and, if necessary, through interior spandrel walls, tie or transverse walls, or interior columns. An open-spandrel arch is a structure in which bays or panels with arches, lintel spans, or other construction supporting the deck replace the spandrel walls. In turn, a cross wall or columns resting on the arch ring support these bays or panels

open-spandrel, ribbed arch a structure in which two or more comparatively narrow arch rings function in the place of an arch barrel. Arch rib struts located at intervals along the length of the rings secure the ribs rigidly in position. The arch rings support a column-type, open-spandrel construction sustaining the floor system and its loads

operator's house

the building containing the power plant, operating machinery, and devices required to open and close a bridge span. Also referred to as an operator's cabin

outer bearing

those live-load bearings placed on swing-span and bascule-rest piers

overpass

a separation of grades in which elevated traffic structures are overpasses and lowered ones are underpasses. See also **grade** separation

packing ring

see spreader

paddle boards

striped, paddle-shaped signs or boards placed on the roadside in front of a narrow bridge as a warning

panel

the portion of a truss span located between adjacent web and chord-member intersection points and applied to intersections on the bottom chord. A truss panel divided into two equal or unequal parts by an intermediate web member (such as a subdiagonal or a hanger) forms *subpanels* 

panel point

the point where primary web and chord members of a truss intersect

para

paragraph(s)

parabolic arch

an arch in which the intrados's surface is a segment of a symmetrical parabolic surface (suited to concrete arches)

parabolic arched truss

see parabolic truss

parabolic truss

a polygonal truss with its top chord and end-post vertices similar to the arc of a parabola, its bottom chord straight, and its web system triangular or quadrangular

parapet

a wall-like brick, stone, or reinforced concrete member on the retaining wall of an approach cut, embankment, or causeway or along the outer edge of the roadway or sidewalk of a bridge to protect vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Although similar to a balustrade, a parapet is usually a block barrier with no openings in the body portion. See also mortar

parent metal

see base metal

Parker truss

an adaptation of the Pratt truss in which the top chord is polygonal in shape. *See also* **Pratt truss** 

 $\mathbf{PC}$ 

personal computer

**pedestal** a cast or built-up metal member or assemblage that transmits loads

from one part of a structure to another. A pedestal may also provide for longitudinal, transverse, or revolutional movements; block-like stone, concrete, or brick constructions on the bridge seat of an abutment or pier that provide support for the beams. See also

expansion shoe

pedestrian bridge see footbridge

**peen** to draw, bend, or flatten by or as if by hammering with a peen

**penetration** the depth to which a pile tip is driven into the ground, surface wood is permeated by creosote oil, or the surface of structure metal is

fused and coalesced with metal to produce a weld joint

perched abutment see stub abutment

**pier** a shaft or block-like structure that supports the ends of the spans of

a multispan superstructure midway between its abutments. Several types apply to bridge construction. Some are classified by functional distinctions (anchor, pivot, and rest piers), and others are classified

by shape (cylinder, pedestal, pile, and rigid-frame piers)

**pier cap** the top part of a pier. On rigid-frame piers, the pier cap is the beam

across the column tops. On hammerhead and T-piers, the pier cap is

a continuous beam. See also cap and pile cap

pilaster a column-like projection on a face surface used to relieve the

blankness of a plane surface

pile a rod or shaft-like linear member driven into the earth. Piles carry

structure loads through weak soil to that soil capable of supporting them and support loads where scour may cause loss of earth support

concrete below the pile tops when footing reinforcing steel is placed

completely above the piles. See also cap and pier cap

**pile cut-off** the part of a pile that has been removed or will be removed from its

driven butt end to secure the desired elevation

**pile shoe** a metal piece fixed on the point or penetration end of a pile to

protect it during driving and to ease penetration of dense earth

**pile splice** a means of joining one pile on the end of another to provide greater

penetration length

**piling** a number of piles used together to form a construction (such as a

crib, cofferdam, or bulkhead)

**pin** a cylindrical bar used to connect, hold in position, and transmit the

stresses of members in a truss or framed joint. To restrain the pin against longitudinal movement, the pin ends are fitted with pin nuts, cotter bolts, or both. The pin ends may also be burred or fitted

with cotters to prevent the nut from dislodging or coming loose

**pin-connected truss** any truss in which pins connect the chord and web members at the truss joints

pin-filler see spreader

**pinion** the small driving gear on the power train of a movable bridge

**pinion bracket** the frame supporting the turning pinion with its shaft and bearings

on a swing-span drum girder or loading girder

pin joint a joint in a truss or another frame in which the members are

assembled on a cylindrical pin

**pin packing** an arrangement of truss members on a pin at a pinned joint

**pin plate** a metal sheet that is rigidly attached on the end of a member to secure a desired bearing, to develop and distribute the stress of the

joint, and/or to secure additional strength and rigidity

**pintle** a small steel pin or stud that engages the rocker in an expansion

bearing, permitting rotation, transferring shear, and preventing

translation

**pitch** the longitudinal spacing between rivets, studs, bolts, holes, and so

forth that are in a straight line

plate girder an I-shaped beam made of a solid plate web with flange plates or

angles bolted, riveted, or welded on its edges. Additional cover plates may be attached to the flanges to provide greater flange area.

See also built-up column

plate span see girder span

platform see inspection ladder

play allowance see clearance

PLC provisional load classification

plinth see footing

**plug weld** a weld that connects two overlapping members by placing weld

material in a hole or slot drilled in one of the overlapping members

pointed arch see gothic arch

**pointing** the operations involved in compacting mortar in the outer part of a

joint and in troweling or otherwise treating its exposed surface to

secure watertightness, desired architectural effect, or both

**polygonal truss** any truss with an irregular (broken) straight top-chord alignment

that forms with the end posts and with the bottom chord forming

the perimeter of a polygon

**pontoon** a boat or another floating structure used as one of the supports for a

temporary bridge

**pontoon bridge** a bridge with boats, scows, or pontoons fixed in position on the deck

or floor to support vehicular and pedestrian traffic. A pontoon bridge may have a removable part to ease navigation. Modern floating bridges may have pontoons integrated with the deck. *See also* 

portable bridge

**pony truss** a truss not high enough to permit an effective top-chord system of

lateral bracing above the bridge floor

pop-out conical fragment (about one inch in diameter) broken out of a

concrete surface; shattered aggregate particles usually found at the

bottom of a hole

portable bridge a bridge that may be readily erected for a temporary

communication/transport service, then disassembled and reused.

See also pontoon bridge

**portal** the clear, unobstructed entry of a through bridge; the chord bracing

that fixes the top vertical clearance. The portal of a skew bridge is a

skew portal

post see column

posted a limiting dimension indicating a bridge cannot safely take larger

dimensions or loads or higher speeds

pot holes small, worn or disintegrated areas of a bridge floor or approach

surface caused by vehicle wheels

**Pratt truss** a truss with parallel chords and a web system of vertical posts with

diagonal ties inclined from the bottom-chord panel points toward the ends of the truss except for the counters required in midlength

panels. See also Parker truss

**prestressed bridge** a bridge in which the main carrying members are prestressed

concrete

**priming coat** the first coat of paint applied to the metal or other material of a

bridge. For metal structures, it is often applied in the shop and is

termed the shop coat

protection railing see railing

**psi** pound(s) per square inch

**PSP** pierced, steel plank

**QSTAG** Quadripartite Standardization Agreement

quarry face see dimension stones

**queen-post truss** a parallel-chord truss adapted to either timber or metal bridges. The

queen-post truss has three panels. One of the chords occupies only the length of the center panel. Unless center-panel diagonals are

provided, this is a trussed beam. See also trussed beam

rack a bar with teeth on one side to mesh with the gears of a pinion or

worm. It is usually attached to the moving portion of a movable

bridge

**radial rod** a radially located tie rod connecting the roller circle of a rim-bearing

swing span with the center pivot or center-bearing casting

radial strut a radially located brace member of the drum construction of a

rim-bearing wing span

**ragged anchor bolt** an anchor bolt cut with a chisel to produce fin-like projections that

hold the bolt in place

railing a fence-like barrier or protection built within the roadway shoulder

area to be a combined guide and guard for moving vehicular and pedestrian traffic and to prevent or hinder the accidental passage of

such traffic beyond the berm line of the roadway

rake the slope, batter, or inclination of the sides of an embankment or

other earth construction or of a masonry surface. See also batter

ramp an inclined traffic way leading from one elevation to another (such

as an inclined, usually steep, approach to a bridge)

**random stone** a quarried stone block of any dimension

range of stress the algebraic difference between the minimum and maximum

stresses in a member or any of its parts produced by a given

condition of loading or by its actual service loading

rebar a steel reinforcing bar placed in concrete to improve its tensile

properties

redundant member a member of a truss or frame necessary only to reduce the stress

carried by the determinate structure, which would be stable without

it

**reentrant corner** a corner with more than 180 degrees of open space

reflection see cracking

reinforced concrete

a beam in which the metal reinforcement carries the tensile
stresses. The concrete takes compression only, with some shear. It is

commonly rectangular or T-shaped, with its depth dimension

greater than its stem width

inverted T-shape. The stem portion resists the forces producing

overturning by acting as a cantilever beam

**reinforcing bar** a steel bar, with a plain or deformed surface, that bonds to the

concrete and supplies tensile strength to it

retaining wall a structure designed to restrain and hold back a mass of earth

**retractile drawbridge** a bridge with a superstructure that can move horizontally (either

longitudinally or diagonally) from a closed to an open position. The part acting in cantilever is counterweighted by that supported upon

rollers

rigid-frame bridge a bridge with rigid or moment-resistant connections between deck

slabs or beams and the substructure walls or columns that produce an integral elastic structure. The structure may be steel or concrete

rim girder see drum girder

**rim plate** a toothed or plain segmental rim on a rolling-lift bridge

**ringbolt** a ringbolt is an eyebolt fitted with a ring for added articulation; See

also eyebolt

ring stone see voussoir

**riprap** protective covering material (such as blocks, brickbats, or stones)

deposited on water beds, banks, and shores to prevent erosion and

scour

**rise of an arch** the vertical distance for a symmetrical arch (from the chord through

its springing lines to the intrados at its crown). For an unsymmetrical arch, the rise is measured from the springing lines

to the crown

**riveted joint** a joint in which rivets or bolts unite the assembled elements and

members. Proper distribution of rivets or bolts allows the joint to develop its various parts with relation to their stresses and purposes. Bolted and riveted joints employ different allowable unit

stresses

roadway the portion of the deck surface of a bridge or of an approach

embankment, causeway, or cut intended for vehicular and

pedestrian traffic

roadway berm see berm

**roadway shoulder** that part of the top surface of an approach embankment, causeway, or cut immediately adjoining the roadway that accommodates

stopped vehicles in emergencies and laterally supports base and

surface courses

rocker and camshaft an adjustable mechanism consisting of a rocker bearing and a

camshaft. Properly mounted and geared, the mechanism reacts on a fixed shoe plate or pedestal, rotating to produce a vertical lifting

action

rocker bearing a cylindrical, sector-shaped member attached to the expansion end

of a girder or truss. The rocker bearing has line-bearing contact with the masonry plate or pedestal. This wheel-like translation allows longitudinal movement caused by temperature changes and

superimposed loads

rocker bent a metal, reinforced concrete, or timber bent that is hinged or joined

at one or both ends to allow longitudinal movement caused by

temperature changes and superimposed loads

rock face see dimension stones

**roller** a steel cylinder in a roller nest or any other rolling device or part;

one of the wheel-like elements forming the roller circle of a rim-

bearing swing span

**roller bearing** one or more rollers housed to permit movement of structural parts

roller nest a group of rollers (usually assembled in a frame or box) forming part

of the movable end of a girder or truss and located between the masonry plate and shoe or pedestal. Roller nests ease longitudinal movement caused by temperature changes and superimposed loads

roller track the circular track on which the drum rollers of a rim-bearing swing

span travel

rolling-lift bridge a bascule bridge that rolls backward and forward on supporting

girders

RR railroad

rubble irregularly shaped pieces of stone obtained from a quarry. Rubble

may vary from small, usable pieces to large boulders and fragments requiring mechanical equipment for handling. Stones that are ready

to use in rubble masonry are worked or dressed rubble

run see bead

**runoff** the part of precipitation on a drainage (catchment) area that is

discharged quickly and therefore affects the design of that area of the bridge. The amount of runoff depends on the soil type and

conditions, the amounts of rainfall or snow, and so forth

saddle a member on the tower of a suspension bridge that supports the

suspension cable or chain and allows horizontal movement caused by elastic deformations from temperature changes and service loads safe load the maximum load that a structure can hold. The maximum load is

determined by the magnitude and distribution of the wheel, the axle, and so forth and is based on the physical condition of the

structure and its previous use

safety curb a narrow curb (between 9 and 24 inches wide) that serves as a

refuge or walkway for pedestrians crossing a bridge

safety factor a factor that engineers use to allow for the failure stress or stresses

assumed to exist in a structure or a member. It provides a margin of error in the strength, rigidity, deformation, and endurance of a structure or its component parts to compensate for irregularities in structural materials and workmanship, uncertainties involved in mathematical analysis and stress distribution, service deterioration.

and other unevaluated conditions

**sag** a deformation of an entire span (or one of its members or parts) from its required position; the total deflection of the cable members of a

suspension bridge

**sag ratio** the relation between the sag and the span length

**sag rod** a rod with threads and nuts at its ends that restrains a structure

member from sagging due to its own weight or external forces

**sash brace** the horizontal member in a tier of bracing attached to a timber or a

reinforced concrete or metal trestle bent or tower to add rigidity to

the structure

sash stay see sash brace

**SBC** soil bearing capacity

**SC** clayey sands; sand-clay mixture

**scab** a plank that is spiked or bolted over the joint between two members

to hold them in correct adjustment and to strengthen the joint

**scour** an erosion of a water-bed area that is caused by moving water;

erosion that produces a deepening or widening of the water area

a flat-bottomed floating vessel with a rectangular hull, sloping ends, and no means of propulsion; commonly used as a support in a

temporary bridge

screw jack and pedestal

scow

an adjustable mechanism consisting of a screw operated in a fixed nut and joined on the bottom with a pedestal-like bearing, permitting adjustment on a fixed-shoe plate or pedestal. Screw jacks and pedestals installed at each outermost end of the girders or

trusses of a swing span lift them to allow the camber or droop to remove the swing span and free the arms to act as simple spans

**scupper** an opening in a bridge floor (commonly located next to the curb or wheel guard) to allow accumulated water to drain. On a reinforced

concrete bridge, the scupper may be in the curb-face surface

scupper block one of the short, wooden pieces fixed between the planks of a bridge floor and the bottom side of the wheel guard to provide scuppers

a weld that joins the edges of two elements of a member or of two members placed in contact. This weld forms a continuous surface and prevents infiltration of moisture between the parts. This weld is

not a stress-carrying weld

**seat angle** a steel section that is attached to the side of a column girder or

another member to provide support for a connecting member either

temporarily during its erection or permanently

**segmental arch** an arch in which the intrados surface is less than half the surface of

a cylinder or cylindroid. Any right section that shows a parabolic

curvature may include a segmental arch

**segmental girder** a girder that uses a curved bottom flange and tread coatings to join

the bridge span with the track girder on a movable bridge. See also

track girder

**segmental rim** the curved rim or circular segment of a rolling lift bridge

**segmental roller** a roller with two circular segments that are integrally joined by a

web-like portion

seizing a wrapping of wire or other material that is applied on

suspension-bridge cables to hold the individual wires in satisfactory

contact condition

**semistub abutment** a cantilever abutment that is found part way up the slope between a

shoulder abutment and a stub abutment and is intermediate in size

**shafts** pieces that are used in movable structures and that carry torsion

stresses

**shear lock** the mechanism at the heel of a bascule span that engages and holds

the leaves closed and prevents rotation

**sheave** a wheel with one or more grooves in its face surface

**sheave hood** a protective covering that is placed above a sheave to prevent

accumulations of moisture, sleet, and ice on the sheave face

**sheet girder** a girder or girder-like member that supports the operating-cable

sheaves at the top of a tower on a vertical-lift bridge

**sheet pile** a timber, reinforced concrete, or rolled-steel pile used in bulkheads,

cofferdams, and cribs to retain the earth and to prevent the inflow of

water, liquid mud, and sand

**sheet pile cofferdam** a wall-like, watertight barrier of driven timber or metal sheet piling.

This dam is adapted to construction in still or slow-flowing, shallow water. Depositing earth material against the exterior side will

sometimes makes the dam more watertight

**sheet piling** a number of sheet piles placed together to form a crib, cofferdam,

bulkhead, and so forth

shelf angle see seat angle

**shim** a comparatively thin piece of wood, stone, or metal that is inserted

between two elements, pieces, or members to fix their relative

position and/or to transmit bearing stress

**shoe** a pedestal-shaped member at the end of a plate girder or truss that

transmits and distributes its loads to a supporting area or member. A shoe may be a cast or a built-up member. See also **expansion** 

shoe

shoe plate the base plate or plate-like part of a shoe that may take bearing

directly on a masonry plate or an intervening expansion device

shop coat see priming coat

**shore** a strut or prop that is placed in a horizontal, inclined, or vertical

position against or beneath a structure or a part of the structure to

restrain movement

**shoulder abutment** a cantilever abutment that extends from the grade line of the road

below to that of the road overhead. It is usually set just off the

shoulder

shoulder area see roadway shoulder

shuttering see forms side-hill cut see cut

sidewalk the part of the bridge floor serving pedestrian traffic only and

commonly elevated above the vehicle area for the safety and

convenience of its users

sidewalk bracket a triangular frame or cantilever beam attached to and projecting

from the outside of a girder, truss, or bent to serve as a support for

the sidewalk stringers, floor, and railing or parapet

sill the base piece or member of a viaduct or trestle bent that distributes

column loads directly on the foundation or on mud sills embedded in the foundation soil transversely to the alignment of the bent

sill piece see sill

silt very fine siliceous or other hard and durable material derived from

its mother rock through attrition or other mechanical action rather

than chemical decomposition

**simple span** a superstructure span with a single unrestrained bearing or support

at each end. This span is unaffected by stress transmission to or

from an adjacent span or structure

sin sine

skew see skew angle

**skew angle** the acute angle subtended by a line that is normal to the

longitudinal axis of the structure and a line that is parallel to or coinciding with the alignment of its end as applied to oblique bridges

**skewback** the course of stones in an abutment or pier that is located at the

extremity of an arch and has inclined or battered beds as required to transmit the stresses of the arch; a casting or combination of

castings or a built-up member designed to function as a skewback

skewback pedestal see skewback shoe

**skewback shoe** the hinged shoe or pedestal member that transmits the thrust of a

trussed arch or plate-girder arch to an abutment or pier skewback or

cushion course

skew portal see portal

**slab** a thick plate (usually of reinforced concrete) that supports loads by

flexure and is usually treated as a widened beam

**slab bridge** a bridge with a superstructure that is composed of a reinforced

concrete slab that is either singular, constructed in place, or a series of narrow, precast slabs. This slab is parallel with the roadway alignment and spans the space between the supporting abutments

or other substructure parts

**slag inclusion** small particles of metal that are trapped inside a weld during the

fusion process

**sleeve nut** a device used to connect the elements of an adjustable rod or bar

member. The sleeve nut is a forging with an elongated, nut-shaped body that has right- and left-hand threads in its end portions,

permitting wrench adjustments or desired member tension

**slenderness ratio** the measure of a member's stiffness, which is expressed as the

length of the member divided by its radius of gyration

slice plate see gusset

**slope** the inclined surface of an excavated cut or an embankment

**slope pavement** a thin surfacing of material deposited on the sloped surface of an

approach cut, embankment, or causeway to prevent its

disintegration by rain, wind, or other erosive action

**slope protection** *see* **slope pavement** 

slot weld see plug weld

**SM** silty sands; a sand-silt mixture

soffit see intrados

**soldier beam** a steel pile that is driven into the earth (with its butt end projecting)

and used as a cantilever beam to support a plank-style retaining

wall

sole plate a plate that is bolted, riveted, or welded on the bottom flange of a

rolled beam, plate girder, or truss to take direct bearing on a roller nest, bearing pedestal, or masonry plate. The plate distributes the reaction of the bearing to the beam, girder, or truss member and may act as a combined sole and masonry plate at the fixed end of a

beam, a girder, or a truss

**SP** poorly graded sands; a gravelly sand mixture with 5 percent or less

of fines

**spalls** a circular or oval depression in concrete that is caused by a

separation of the surface concrete, revealing a fracture that is parallel with or slightly inclined to the surface; pieces of spalled

concrete

**span** the distance (center to center) of the end bearings or the distance between the lines of action of the reactions; the unobstructed space

or distance between the faces of the substructure elements; the complete superstructure of a single-span bridge or a corresponding

integral part or unit of a multiple-span structure

**spandrel** the space bounded by the arch extrados, substructure abutments

and/or piers, and the roadway surface or another fixed-elevation

limit

spandrel-arch see face wall

structure

**spandrel column** a column that is superimposed on the ring or a rib of an arch span

and serving as a support for the deck construction of an

open-spandrel arch

**spandrel fill** the filling material placed in the spandrel space of an arch

**spandrel tie wall** one of the walls built at intervals above the arch ring to tie together

and reinforce the spandrel walls; any wall serving as a restraining member to prevent bulging and distortion of two other connected

walls. See also diaphragm wall

**spandrel wall** a wall that is built on an arch as a retaining wall for the spandrel fill

and the roadway in a spandrel-filled arch or to support the floor system and its loads when the spandrel is not filled. Wide structures with unfilled spandrels may have one or more interior walls to

provide a cellular construction when combined with tie walls

specifications a detailed construction plan, including material quality and

handling, load conditions and application, stress, design, and

construction procedures

**spider** the collar-like plate that connects a spider frame to a pivot

spider frame the assemblage of struts, radial rods, spacer rings, and

roller-adjusting devices holding the conical roller ring of a rim-bearing or a combined rim- and center-bearing swing span to

the pivot

spider rod see radial rod

**spill-through** two or more columns supporting A-grade beams. This abutment retains the approach embankment only partly, since the

retains the approach embankment only partly, since the embankment's sloped front and side portions extend with their

normal slope to envelop the columns

 $\textbf{splay saddle} \hspace{0.5cm} \text{a member at the anchorage ends of suspension-bridge cables that} \\$ 

permits the wires or strands to spread for connection to the

anchorage

splice the joining or uniting of elements or members of a structure to

provide the desired conditions for transmitting stress and developing rigidity and strength to fulfill service requirements in design. All the parts used to unite elements of a member or

members of a structure

splice joint a joint in which the elements of a member or the members of a

structure are joined by a splice plate or by a piece securing a required amount of strength and stability

required amount of strength and stability

**spreader** a cast or fabricated piece used to hold angles, beams, channels, or

fabricated parts in place to function as parts of a member or structure; a ring-like or sleeve-like piece placed on a pin to hold

eyebars or other members in the correct position

**springing line** the line in the face surface of an abutment or pier at which the

intrados of an arch originates

**spur dike** a projecting construction that is placed downstream and/or

upstream and adjacent to a U- or T-shaped, blocked, or arched abutment to secure a gradual contraction of the stream's width and to induce a free, even flow of water adjacent to and beneath a bridge. Spur dikes may be constructed as an extension of the wing wall or as

a wingod abutment

a winged abutment

**sq ft** square feet; square foot

**sq in** square inch(es)

**S-shaped beam** the American-standard beam

sta station

**STANAG** Standardization Agreement

an extension at the upstream end or at both ends of a pier that is built with battered surfaces, forming a cutwater to divide and deflect waters and floating debris. When on the downstream end, the starling functions to reduce crosscurrents and swirl and eddy

actions that produce sand, silt, and debris deposits

statics the branch of physical science concerned with bodies, static or at

rest, upon which balanced forces act

**stay-in-place forms** a prefabricated, metal, concrete-deck form that will remain in place

after the concrete has set

stay plate a plate that is placed at or near the end of a latticed side or the web

of a compression or another member and at intermediate locations where connections interrupt the continuity of the latticing. This plate serves to distribute lattice-bar stress to the elements of the member and adds stiffness and rigidity to joint assemblages. *See* 

also batten plate and gusset

**steel box girder** a steel beam or girder with a rectangular or trapezoidal cross section

that is made of plates and angles or other structural shapes that are bolted, riveted, or welded together (a girder's only interior construction is stiffeners, diaphragms, or other secondary bracing parts). Steel box girders are large, steel, multicell boxes with interior webs and composite in which the concrete slab forms the top

side of the box

**stem** the vertical wall of an abutment retaining wall or solid pier. *See also* 

breast wall

**stiffener** an angle, a T, a plate, or another rolled section that is riveted,

bolted, or welded on the web of a plate girder or another built-up member to transfer stress and prevent buckling or other

deformation

stiffening girder a girder or truss incorporated in a suspension bridge to act with a

suspension cable or chain by restraining the deformations of the cable or chain and by distributing the irregularly distributed loads, thus resisting and controlling vertical oscillations of the floor system

stiffening truss see stiffening girder

**stirrup** a U-shaped rod, bar, or angle piece that is placed in concrete beams,

slabs, and so forth to resist diagonal tension stresses

**stirrup bolt** a U-shaped rod or bar (that is fitted at its ends with threads, nuts, and washers) that is used to support streamer or other timber pieces

of wooden truss structures that are suspended from the bottom

chord

**stone facing** a stone or brick surface covering or sheath laid to imitate stone or

brick masonry with a depth thickness equal to the width dimension of one stone or brick for stretchers and equal to the length

dimension for headers

stone veneer see stone facing

**straight abutment** an abutment that has the stem and wings in the same plane or that

has the stem included within a length of the retaining wall. In general, the stem wall is straight but will conform to the alignment

of the retaining wall

**straight wing wall** a wall in continuation of the breast wall of the abutment

strain the distortion of a body caused by one or more external forces and

measured in units of length. In common use, strain is the proportional relation of the amount of distortion divided by the

original length

**stream flow** the water discharge that occurs in a natural channel. A more

general term than runoff, stream flow may be applied to discharge

whether or not it is affected by diversion or regulation

**stress** resistance of a body to strain when in a solid or plastic state and

which acts in an unconfined condition

**stress sheet** a drawing that shows a structure in skeletal form and clarifies the

general makeup, major dimensions, and the arrangement and composition of its integral parts. The drawing should show computed stresses (based on applying a system of loads) and the design composition of individual members (based on applying

assumed unit stresses)

**stringer** a longitudinal beam supporting the bridge deck and, in large or

truss bridges, it is framed in or is on the floor beams

**structural members** ties, beams, columns or struts, or any combination of the three

**structural shapes** rolled iron and steel with various cross-sectional shapes adapted to

the construction of metal members

**structural T** a T-shaped, rolled member that is formed by cutting a wide flange

longitudinally along the centerline of the web

structure metal see base metal

**strut** a piece or member acting to resist compressive stress

strut sash see sash brace

**stub abutment** an abutment that is in the top portion of the end of an embankment

or slope and is quite short as a result. Often supported on piles driven through the underlying embankment or *in situ* material, stubs may be founded on gravel fill, the embankment, or natural

ground

subpanel see panel

subpunched and structural steel shapes or assembled members or structures with rivet holes that are punched a specified dimension less in diameter

than the nominal size of the rivets to be driven in and subsequently

reamed to a specified diameter greater than the rivet size

subsill see mud sill

substructure the part of a bridge superstructure that is constructed to support a span or spans

> a pit or tank-like depression or receptacle into which water is drained. The water may then be pumped or siphoned for removal

superelevation the transverse inclination of a roadway's surface in a horizontal curve and the relatively short, adjacent tangent lengths required for full development. Superelevation allows resistance to the centrifugal forces of moving vehicles

> the part of a bridge structure that primarily receives and supports highway, canal, railway, or other traffic loads and transfers the resulting reactions to the bridge substructure

> an additional load placed atop existing earth or dead loads. With abutments and retaining walls, the surcharge is replaced by an earth load of equivalent weight

surface face see mortar

sump

a superstructure span with one or both ends supported on or from adjoining cantilever arms, brackets, or towers. This span is unaffected by stress transmission to or from an adjacent structure

> a cable, a rod, or a bar that engages a cable band or another device, connecting it to the main suspension member of a suspension bridge at one end and a member of the bridge floor system at the other. The suspender transfers loads to the main suspension members of the structure, helping to support the floor system and its loads. A suspender is a member that supports another member in a horizontal or an inclined position against sagging, twisting, or other deformation due to its own weight. See also hanger

> a bridge in which the floor system and its incidental parts and appliances are suspended on cables supported at two or more locations on towers and anchored at their extreme ends. These cables (which are the main suspension members) support the floor system horizontally

> one of the main members supporting the floor system of a suspension bridge. The cable ends may be fixed at the tops of backstay towers that resist the horizontal components of the cable or chain stresses, or the cable may rest on saddles at the tops of two or more towers and be extended and fixed on anchorage members

see suspension cable

well-graded sands; a gravelly sand mixture with 5 percent or less of fines

a guy, stay cable, or chain that is attached at an intermediate location on the floor system of a suspension bridge and anchored on the end portion of an abutment or pier or in the adjacent land surface to increase the resistance of the suspension span to lateral movement

a component attached at an angle to the vertical components of a pile or bent, connecting it with the ground surface or sill for support. See also bracing

see sway anchorage

surcharge

suspended span

superstructure

suspender

suspension bridge

suspension cable

suspension chain

sway anchorage

SW

sway cable

sway brace

sway frame a sway bracing panel or frame. See also bracing

**swedged anchor bolt** an anchor bolt with traverse and diagonal niches to hold it in place

**swing bridge** a bridge with a superstructure that revolves in a horizontal plane on a pivot from a closed to open position. Its alignment is very similar

to the original alignment. A swing bridge is a structure, with its substructure skewed, that commonly allows revolution in only one

direction through an arc less than 90 degrees

**swing span** a superstructure supported on a pier at its center, with its end supports withdrawn or released. This span is equipped to be revolved in a horizontal plane to provide an unobstructed waterway

for navigation. See also movable bridge

**swing-span pivot** the center casting that the movable portion of a swing span revolves

on or about in making a cycle. In a center-bearing span, this casting acts both as a pivotal member and as the support for the movable span when the end-lift device is released. In a rim-bearing span, the swing span acts as a pivotal member but does not support the movable span. In a combined center- and rim-bearing span, the swing span acts as a support for a portion of the weight of the

movable span when the end-lift device is released

T tracked

tack weld a butt, fillet, or seam weld intended only to fix an element or

member of a structure in correct adjustment and position before full welding. Tack welds may restrain welded parts against deformation

and distortion caused by expansion of the metal

tail lock see shear lock

tail pit see counterweight well

**tailwater** water that is ponded below the outlet of a culvert, pipe, or waterway

to reduce the amount of waterway flow. Tailwater is expressed in

terms of its depth. See also headwater

tan tangent

**TCMS** Theater Construction Management System

**telltale** a traffic-control device used to show the driver if the vehicle exceeds

horizontal-clearance restrictions for a bridge

temporary bridge a structure built for emergency or interim use to replace a

previously existing bridge that is demolished or unserviceable due to flood, fire, wind, and so forth or to supply bridge service required for

a relatively short period

**tendon** a prestressing cable or strand

**tension** an axial force or stress caused by equal and opposite forces pulling

at the ends of the members

**threaded anchor bolt** an anchor bolt that is shaped with a machine-cut thread. The thread

anchorage uses a nut or a nut and anchor plate when the bolt is to be built into the masonry instead of being set in a drilled hole

**three-hinged arch** an arch with end supports pinned and a third hinge (pin) located

somewhere near midspan, making the structure determinate

**throat** the dimension normal to the sloping face of a fillet weld between its

heel and the sloping faces

through bridge a bridge with its floor located between the two sides of the

superstructure, causing traffic to pass through the structural

members

through cut see cut

tide gate see floodgate
tie bar see tie rod
tie plate see stay plate

**tie rod** a rod or bar in a truss or other frame that transmits tensile stress

tie wall see spandrel tie wall

TM technical manualTO theater of operation

toe of a slope the place where the sloped surface of an approach cut, an

embankment, a causeway, or another area intersects with natural

or artificial ground surface at a lower elevation

**toe wall** a low retaining wall placed near the toe of a slope to produce a fixed

end point, to protect against erosion and scour, or to prevent

water-debris accumulation

toggle joint a mechanical arrangement where two members are hinged together

at a central location and separately at their opposite ends. Their alignment forms an obtuse angle, causing a force applied at the common hinge to produce a lateral thrust at the end hinges directed

by the original force

**tolerance** a range or variation in physical or chemical properties that is

determined to be permissible for construction materials

top see pier cap

track girder

**TOP** land-force tactical doctrine and operational procedures

**tower** a pier or frame that supports the cables or chains of a suspension

bridge at the end of a span; a frame acting as an end support, guide frame, and counterweight support for a vertical lift span during an operating cycle; a three-dimensional substructure framework in a viaduct with the vertical bents at its ends joined longitudinally by struts and braces, enabling the structure to resist forces acting longitudinally on the structure; a four-sided frame supporting the ends of two spans or one complete span (tower span) and the ends of two adjacent spans of a viaduct, with its column members strutted

and braced in the tiers and the planes of two or four sides battered

one of the plate girders or trusses that is intended to provide support for the movable span throughout a cycle. The tread casting fitted on its top flange or chord forms the track on which the

segmental girder moves. See also segmental girder

**track plate** the plate on which the segmental girder of a rolling lift span rolls

**track segment** one of the pieces of the circular track that supports the balance wheels of a center-bearing swing span or the drum-bearing wheels

of a drum or combined center- and drum-bearing spans

**TRADOC** Training and Doctrine Command

trailing wheel see balance wheel

**transition length** the tangent length within which the change from a normal to a

superelevated roadway cross section is developed

**transverse bracing** the bracing assemblage engaging the columns of trestle and viaduct

bents and towers in perpendicular or slightly inclined planes and in the horizontal planes of their sash braces. This bracing resists the transverse forces of wind, lateral vibration, and traffic movements that produce lateral movement and deformation of the united

columns. See also bracing

transverse girder see cross girder

transverse system see transverse bracing trapezoidal abutment see straight abutment

travel way see roadway

traverse drawbridge see retractile drawbridge

**tread plate** the plates attached on the bottom flange of a drum girder, shaped to

form a circular surface with a uniform bearing on the drum rollers. These plates transfer the live and dead loads of the superimposed structure to the rollers. The assemblage is sometimes termed the

upper track

**tremie** a long trunk or pipe with a hopper at its upper end that is used to

place concrete underwater. See also foundation seal

**tremie concrete** the concrete placed underwater by use of a tremie

**trestle** a bridge structure with beam, girder, or truss spans supported on

bents, which may include two or more tiers. Trestle structures are designated by the material and characteristics of their principal

members

triangular truss see Warren truss

**trunnion** in a bascule bridge, the assemblage of a pin fitted into a supporting

bearing and forming a hinge or axle on which the movable span

swings during its cycle

**trunnion girder** the girder supporting the trunnions on a bascule bridge

**truss** a jointed structure with an open, built web arranged so that the

frame is divided into a series of triangular figures and its component straight members are primarily stressed only axially. The

connecting pins are assumed to be frictionless

**truss bridge** a bridge with a truss for a superstructure. The ordinary single span

rests on one support at each end (which may be abutments, piers, bents, or towers or any combination of these). The superstructure

span includes the trusses, the flow system, and the bracing

**trussed beam** a beam that is reinforced by one or more rods on its tension side

(attached at or near its ends) and passing beneath a support at the midlength of the span, producing in effect an inverted king-post

truss. See also queen-post truss

trussed girder see king-post truss

truss panel see panel

tubular truss a truss with chords and struts composed of pipes or cylindrical tubes

**Tudor arch** a modification of the gothic arch produced by adding shorter radius

cylinder segments at the haunches, thus making it a four-centered

form or type. See also gothic arch

a device used to connect the elements of adjustable rod and bar turnbuckle

members

two-hinged arch an arch with a pinned connection at each support

> **U-bolt** a round or square bar that is bent in the shape a U and fitted with

> > threads and nuts at its ends

underpass see overpass

unit stress the stress per square inch (or another unit) of the surface or

cross-sectional area

uplift a negative reaction or force that lifts a beam, a truss, a pile, or other

bridge elements

upper track see tread plate

> **United States** US

**USACE United States Army Corps of Engineers** 

**USAES United States Army Engineer School** 

a wall placed parallel to the alignment of the approach roadway **U-wing wall** 

a curve in the profile location that defines the elevation vertical curve

the vertically placed tension member engaging the hip joint of a vertical hip

truss and supporting the first panel floor beam in a through-truss

span or the bottom chord only of a deck-truss span

vertical-lift bridge a bridge with a superstructure that can be raised or lowered

vertically by cables, chains, or other mechanical devices, with its ends seated on bridge-seat pedestals. See also movable bridge

a bridge structure consisting of beam, girder, truss, or arch spans that are supported on abutments with towers and bents, piers, or

any combination of these supporting parts. Though a viaduct generally seems to be higher than a trestle, this is not usually so. A

viaduct may be exactly like a multispan bridge

Vierendeel truss a rigid frame with an assemblage of rectangles and trapezoids but

no diagonal members

voided unit a precast concrete-deck unit with cylindrical voids to reduce dead

viaduct

one of the truncated wedged stones composing a ring course in a voussoir

stone arch. The facing or head voussoirs are placed at the ends of a

ring course

voussoir arch a hingeless arch with both supports fixed against rotation.

Originally, built of voussoirs (wedge-shaped stone blocks), the

hingeless arch may also be concrete

W wheeled wale a wooden or metal piece or assemblage placed inside and/or outside

the wall of a cofferdam, crib, or similar structure, usually in a horizontal position to maintain shape and increase rigidity, stability, and strength. An assemblage of wale pieces is termed a

waling

wale piece see wale

waling see wale

walk see inspection ladder

**Warren truss** a parallel-chord truss that is developed for metal bridge structures

in which the web system is formed by a single triangle. It has no counters, but web members near the center of a span can be

subjected to stress reversals. It may include verticals

water table the upper limit or elevation of groundwater that saturates a part of

a soil mass

waterway the available unobstructed width for the passage of water beneath a

bridge. In a multispan bridge, the available width is the total unobstructed waterway lengths of the spans. *See also* **clear span** 

wearing course see wearing surface

wearing surface the surface of a roadway that is in direct contact with traffic and

that resists the resulting abrading, crushing, or other disintegrating

action

web the stem of a dumbbell or solid wall pier or the part of a beam

located between and connected to the flanges or the chords. The web

resists shear stresses

web members the intermediate members of a truss, generally extending from

chord to chord but not including the end posts. Inclined web

members are termed diagonals. See also counter

web plate the plate that forms the web element of a plate girder, built-up

beam, or column

wedge and pedestals an adjustable lifting mechanism with a wedge operating between an

upper and a lower bearing block or pedestal

wedge stroke the theoretical distance a wedge must move on its pedestal to lift the

arm of a swing span a distance equal to the vertical camber of the arm, due to elastic deformation minus the portion assumed to be

provided in the field erection

weep hole see drain hole

weep pipe see drain hole

weld the process of uniting portions of one or more pieces, the elements of

a member, or the members of a structure in an intimate and permanent position or status; the joint produced by the welding  ${\bf r}$ 

process

welded bridge a structure in which the metal elements composing its members and

their joints are welded

welded joint a joint in which the assembled elements and members are welded

welded structure see welded bridge

weld layer a single thickness of weld metal composed of beads (runs) placed in

contact to form a pad weld or a portion of a weld made of

superimposed beads

weld metal the filler metal added to the fused structure metal to produce (by

coalescence and interdiffusion) a welded joint or a weld layer

**weld penetration** the depth beneath the original surface to which the structure metal

is fused in a fusion weld. See also penetration

weld sequence the order required in making the welds of a built-up piece or the

joints of a structure to avoid the residual stresses producing individual joint distortions and deformations of the structure or its

members

**wheel base** the axle spacing or length of a vehicle. When applied to vehicles with

wheel concentrations at the ends of the front and rear axles, the wheel base is the center-to-center length of the axles or the length

from the front to the rear wheels

**wheel concentration** the load carried by and transmitted to the supporting structure by

one wheel of a vehicle, a movable bridge, or other equipment or

device. See also axle load

wheel guard a timber piece that is placed longitudinally along the side limit of

the roadway to guide vehicle wheels and to safeguard trusses, railings, and other structures outside the roadway limit from

collision

wheel load see wheel concentration

**white-way lighting** the lighting provided for night illumination along a road or bridge,

as distinguished from sign lighting or colored regulatory and

warning lights

wide flange a rolled member with an H-shaped cross section with wider flanges

and a thinner web than an I-beam

wind bracing the bracing systems in girder and truss spans and in towers and

bents that resist the stresses of wind forces

wing wall the retaining-wall extension of an abutment that restrains and

holds the side-slope material of an approach causeway or

embankment in place

worked rubble see rubble

working stress the unit stress in a member under service or design load

W-shaped beam wide-flange beam